

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NEA-10

NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 USIA-15 TRSE-00

SAJ-01 EB-11 OMB-01 DRC-01 /094 W

----- 033614

R 181730Z DEC 73

FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3320

SECDEF WASHDC

INFO: RUFTRRA/USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

USLOSACLANT

CINCLANT

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 6172

E.O. 11652: GDS, 12-31-79

TAGS: MCAP, NATO

SUBJECT: COSTING OF FORCE PROPOSALS

1. ON DECEMBER 14, SACLANTREPEUR CIRCULATED LETTER TO DRC REPS ON COSTING OF FORCE PROPOSALS. AT DRC MEETING DEC 18, HE ASKED THAT LETTER BE DISCUSSED AT NEXT DRC MEETING (DATE FOR WHICH IS NOT YET SET). REQUEST GUIDANCE ON POSITION US REP SHOULD TAKE DURING DRC DISCUSSION OF THIS SUBJECT.

2. SUBSTANTIVE TEXT OF SACLANTREPEUR'S LETTER FOLLOWS:
QUOTE:

1. IT IS REQUESTED THAT THE SUBJECT OF "FORCE PROPOSAL COSING" BE PLACED ON THE AGENDA OF AN EARLY DRC MEETING *.

2. IT IS UNDERSTOOD THE INTERNATIONAL STAFF ARE AWARE OF THE PAUCITY OF COSING INFORMATION IN THE SACLANT FORCE PROPOSALS 1975-1980. THE REASONS FOR THIS LACK OF MATERIAL ARE SEVERAL. IT MIGHT BE HELPFUL IF I REITERATED SOME OF THE DIFFICULTIES EXPERIENCED BY THE SACLANT TEAM IN ATTEMPTING TO OBTAIN
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COSTING FIGURES FROM THE DEFENCE DEPARTMENTS OF THE SACLANT COUNTRIES.

A. FIRSTLY - THERE IS NO OFFICIAL DOCUMENT WHICH TASKS

NATIONS TO PROVIDE COSING INFORMATION. SACLANT STAFF IS THEREFORE LIMITED TO THE DEGREE TO WHICH IT CAN EXHORT NATIONS TO PRODUCE COSTING DETAILS.

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B. SECONDLY - SOME NATIONS PROVIDED LIMITED INFORMATION BUT NOT IN SUFFICIENT DETAIL TO PERMIT COSING OF FORCE PROPOSALS OVER AND ABOVE COUNTRY PLANS. EXCEPTIONS TO THIS WERE UK WHO PROVIDED EXCELLENT DATA, AND CANADA AND PORTUGAL WHO PROVIDED NO DATA.

C. THIRDLY - SOME NATIONS TOOK THE VIEW THAT UNLESS THERE WAS A COMMON FORMULA FOR COSING, IT WAS UNREALISTIC TO PUT ANY FIGURE ON A PARTICULAR UNIT. SHOULD FOR EXAMPLE AND ELEMENT OF COSTS FOR DOCKYARD CAPACITY AND TRAINING FACILITIES, ETC., BE INCLUDED?

D. FOURTHLY - SACLANT DOES NOT HAVE THE STAFF TO PROVIDE COSTING FIGURES WITHIN THE SACLANT ORGANIZATION (AS DOES SACEUR). THE COSTING DATA MUST BE OBTAINED FROM THE COUNTRIES CONCERNED.

3. SACLANT IS ALSO OF THE OPINION THAT THE PURPOSE OF REQUESTING THIS INFORMATION AND THE USE TO WHICH IT IS PUT NEEDS TO BE RE-EXAMINED TO SEE IF THERE IS A CONTINUING NEED. SACLANT WAS GIVEN THE IMPRESSION THAT SOME NATIONS APPEAR TO TAKE THE VIEW THAT ANY RESULTING GAIN IS NOT WORTH THE EFFORT INVOLVED.

4. IF A CONTINUING NEED FOR THIS DATA IS CONFIRMED, SACLANT REQUESTS THAT THE MEMBER NATIONS BE INFORMED, AND THEIR ASSURANCE SOUGHT THAT THEY WILL PROVIDE APPROPRIATE COSING FIGURES.

END QUOTE.

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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